

Message Text

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12

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-02 INR-09 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-14

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 SAL-01 OMB-01

RSR-01 /177 W

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R 191612 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6708

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EAGR.

SUBJECT: MINIMUM IMPORT PRICES ON PROCESSED FRUITS
AND VEGETABLES.

REF: STATE 046171.

1. EMBASSY OFFICERS DISCUSSED THE EC COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL
FOR A MINIMUM IMPORT PRICE SYSTEM ON PROCESSED FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES WITH THE DANISH MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ON MARCH 14
AND WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE ON MARCH 15. THE TIMING OF THE TWO
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REPRESENTATIONS WAS EXCELLENT AS THE ISSUE WAS TO BE BROUGHT UP FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ON MARCH 16. REPRESENTATION WAS ALONG LINES REFTEL, STRESSING GATT BINDINGS ON THESE ITEMS AND THE PROBLEMS IT WOULD CREATE PRIOR TO THE UPCOMING TRADE NEGOTIATION TALKS. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ASKED TO WITHHOLD COMMENT UNTIL AFTER THEIR MEETING ON MARCH 16, AT WHICH TIME INDUSTRY SPOKESMEN WERE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMENTED THAT DENMARK, BEING AN IMPORTER OF MOST OF THESE ITEMS, WOULD HAVE LITTLE INTEREST IN THE ISSUE AT ALL EXCEPT POSSIBLY AS A TRADE OFF WITH ITALY OR SOME OTHER PRODUCING STATE.

2. A FOLLOW- UP OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ON MARCH 16 REVEALED NO RPT NO STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE MIP ISSUE. INDUSTRY SPOKESMEN SHOWED ONLY MINOR INTEREST, AND OF COURSE THEY HAD NO RPT NO INTEREST AT ALL IN CANNED ORANGE JUICE AND DRIED PRUNES. OUR CONTACT IN THE MINISTRY DOUBTED IF ANYTHING WOULD DEVELOP ON THIS ISSUE IN BRUSSELS AND, IF IT DID, HE SAID DENMARK WOULD PROBABLY HAVE LITTLE IF ANY INTEREST IN IT.

3. IN THE COURSE OF OUR MEETINGS, THE ISSUE OF 1973/74 CAP PRICES CAME UP FOR DISCUSSION. THE GENERAL CONSENSUS HERE SEEMS TO BE THAT DENMARK HAS TAKEN A MODERATE POSITION IN ITS PRICE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION. WE HAVE SINCE LEARNED FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT DENMARK WOULD SUPPORT THE RUMORED COMMISSION PROPOSAL OF AN OVERALL TWO PERCENT INCREASE IN FARM PRICES.
DUNNIGAN

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, GATT
To: AGR
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BRUSSELS
DUBLIN
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LONDON
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